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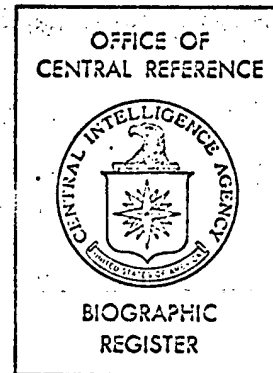
BURUNDI

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(b) (3)

Joseph BAMINA

President, National Committee, Parti de l'Unité et du Progrès National

Joseph Bamina was elected president of the National Committee of the Parti de l'Unité et du Progrès National (UPRONA) on 14 September 1962. Previously a member of the UPRONA Political Bureau, he was backed by then Prime Minister Andre Muhirwa and Mwami (King) Kwanbutsa IV for the committee presidency. In the months following the election he strongly supported the Muhirwa Government, and by early 1963 he was being groomed as a successor to National Assembly president Thaddee Siryuyumusi. However, in May 1963, he failed by two votes to obtain Siryuyumusi's post.



In December 1963 a Burundi radio announcement stated that the UPRONA National Committee which he headed had ceased to exist and that a provisional one led by Paul Mirerekano had replaced it until new elections could be held. Since then, UPRONA has had two national committees.

Generally moderate, he does not follow a racist line and, at least prior to the advent of the Ngendandumwe Government, seemingly tried to play a conciliatory role in UPRONA. He is polite and quiet,

In January 1964 Bamina helped draft a letter, which members of the National Assembly signed, that attacked Western embassies for alleged interference in the internal affairs of Burundi. He is scheduled to visit the US on a Leader Grant in May 1964.

A Hutu, Bamina was born on 15 March 1927 in Busangana, Burundi. After taking eight years of humanities at Magera Seminary, he studied philosophy and theology at the Centre Universitaire de Kisantu, in the Congo, from 1945 to 1950. He served as a territorial agent at Muhinga

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Joseph BAMINA (cont.)

from 1950 to 1954 before transferring to Kitega. Bamina then served on the staff of the Mwami. In the Provisional Government he was secretary of state for finance, a post he retained after the September 1961 elections. A UPRONA candidate, he had been relatively unknown before the elections [redacted]

[redacted] He resigned his government position to become chef de cabinet to the Mwami and, after his election as UPRONA president, he served in both capacities. [redacted]

[redacted] About the time Muhirwa lost his job as Prime Minister, Bamina lost his as the Mwami's chef de cabinet, allegedly because the Mwami did not consider Bamina's job in the Mwami's Cabinet compatible with his job as president of UPRONA.

Bamina attended the Congo Round Table Conference in Brussels as an observer in 1960. He was a petitioner to the UN in 1961 and traveled to Europe in 1962. In 1963 he was a member of the Kitega Council. Bamina is married to a Tutsi and has four or five children. He speaks no English, but is quite fluent in French.

FA:tms

5 May 1964